

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

2F

Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

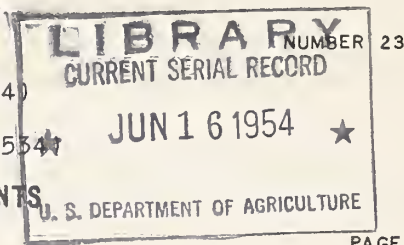


VOLUME 68

PEAS (Dry Edible) (Page 474)

MEAT Page 531) RICE (Page 534)

CONTENTS



PAGE

COTTON

Cotton Consumption in India Continued at High Level.....	539
Spanish Government Amends Export Regulations for Cotton Fabrics.....	540

FATS, OILS AND OILSEEDS

India's Fats and Oils Situation.....	541
Colombia Relaxes Restrictions on Hog Lard Imports.....	540
Angola's Export Surtaxes on Vegetable Oils Suspended.....	544

FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

World Dry Edible Pea Production Production in 1953-54 at Previous Year's Level.....	474
--	-----

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

World Rice Crop Sets New Record.....	534
--------------------------------------	-----

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

World Meat Production 1953.....	531
U.K. Import Regulations of Frozen Eggs and Other Egg Products.....	529
Malayan States Purchasing Poultry Breeding Stock.....	530
Danish Firm Opens Milk Food Packaging Plant in India.....	534

TOBACCO AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Southern Rhodesian Flue-Cured Prices, 1954 Crop.....	528
Consumption of Virginia-type Cigarettes Drops in Israel.....	528
U.K.'s First Quarter Tobacco Imports.....	529
Indonesia Produces More Flue-Cured Tobacco	529

FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

JUNE 7, 1954

L A T E N E W S

New commodity lists for the recent trade agreement between Yugoslavia and Turkey include \$12,000,000 worth of raw cotton to be exported from Turkey to Yugoslavia during the year April 1, 1954, to March 31, 1955.

- - - - -

Favorable prospects for the 1954 cotton crop in Peru are seen as a result of the current harvesting rates for Tanguis cotton which indicate a record crop of this variety. Although June and early July are critical periods in the development of Pima cotton in northern Peru, conditions there also point to a record crop, with dry weather helping to retard insect damage, and installation of a new irrigation project assuring water for about 75,000 acres on which production heretofore has been highly variable.

- - - - -

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the foreign marketing of U. S. farm products by keeping the nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains.

Foreign Crops and Markets is distributed only upon a request basis. Should you find you have no need for this publication, please tear off the addressograph imprint with your name and address on the enclosing envelope, pencil "drop" upon it, and send it to the Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 5922, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WORLD DRY EDIBLE PEA PRODUCTION IN 1953-54 AT PREVIOUS YEAR'S LEVEL

The revised estimate of production of dry, edible peas in the 1953-54 season in 26 countries is 13.1 million bags. This is 1 percent larger than the estimate for the previous season in these same countries but 21 percent below the 5-year (1945-49) average.

These estimates exclude, for lack of recent data, the very large production of peas in China which usually encompasses 6 to 8 million acres and as much as 60 to 65 million bags. It also excludes, for the same reason, about 2.5 million bags of production in countries in Eastern Europe.

The 26 countries reporting pea production include most of the important pea-producing areas of Western Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Oceania, and 3 countries of Asia.

The 1953-54 season in North America, where the United States and Canada produce the bulk of the peas, was on the whole, favorable. Average yields for the Continent were above the previous season and also above the postwar and prewar averages. Production on the Continent was up by 29 percent and acreage up about 26 percent above 1952; yields were slightly below last year in Canada.

The 1953-54 season in Western Europe generally was good for peas, although not as favorable as the previous year. The average yield per acre for all countries taken together was below that of 1952 by 11 percent, but was above both the postwar and prewar averages; production was down by 6 percent and acreage up by 5 percent. The principal dry pea-producing countries of Western Europe, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, reported 1953 production below the 1952 season by 10 percent and 26 percent, respectively. Acreage in the Netherlands was up 25 percent and in the United Kingdom down 6 percent. The small producing countries of Belgium, France, Western Germany, Italy and Sweden, reported substantial increases of production. These increases for the most part were due to higher yields in 1953.

Japanese production was off 34 percent from the previous year, due to reduced acreages and yields per acre. Yields, however, were higher than normal.

The 1953-54 crop in Oceania was reported as higher than the previous year, but hardly up to the 1945-49 average, particularly in New Zealand. The pea crop in Africa was reported 37 percent below that of the previous season, with acreage in French Morocco down by 23 percent.

Specific figures for the recent harvest in South American countries have not been reported as yet, but indications are that the harvest was not good in Chile, while evidence indicates it may have been about average in Argentina. --By Orval E. Goodsell, based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

FEAS: Acreage, yield and production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952 and 1953

Continent and country	Acreage		Yield per acre		Production	
	Average	1952	Average	1952	Average	1952
	1935-39 : 1,000 : acres	1945-49 : 1,000 : acres	1935-39 : Pounds	1945-49 : Pounds	1935-39 : 1,000 : bags	1945-49 : 1,000 : bags
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada.....	85	98	948	967	806	948
Mexico.....	12	18	342	467	41	84
United States.....	223	435	1,152	1,185	2,370	5,154
Total.....	320	551	1,068	1,123	3,417	6,186
EUROPE						
Austria.....	12	7	1,217	929	146	65
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	19	21	2,163	1,890	411	397
Finland.....	30	26	1,297	1,054	389	274
France.....	50	72	1,410	1,318	705	949
Germany, Western.....	33	75	1,536	1,131	507	848
Italy.....	59	49	678	508	400	249
Netherlands.....	91	64	1,786	1,786	2,338	1,143
Norway.....	2	2	2,569	3,205	39	15
Spain.....	134	116	575	384	771	446
Sweden.....	34	38	1,329	1,379	452	457
United Kingdom.....	20	164	1,680	955	336	2,567
Yugoslavia.....	13	21	1,062	1,038	138	218
Total.....	497	655	1,334	1,167	6,632	7,647
ASIA						
Turkey.....	7	4	535	440	36	16
Japan.....	101	15	889	887	898	133
South Korea.....	3	2	669	412	20	8
Total.....	111	21	859	748	954	157
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina.....	25	41	800	961	200	394
Chile.....	71	46	706	678	501	312
Uruguay.....	2	2	500	550	10	11
Total.....	98	89	726	806	711	717
AFRICA						
Algeria.....	18	23	544	400	98	92
French Morocco.....	79	162	533	507	421	822
Union of South Africa.....	9	19	1,351	616	119	117
Total.....	106	204	602	505	638	1,031
OCEANIA						
Australia.....	29	12	776	1,025	225	123
New Zealand.....	18	45	1,578	1,500	284	675
Total.....	47	57	1,083	1,400	509	798
Total specified countries.....	1,179	1,577	1,091	1,049	12,861	16,536
						13,102

1/ Preliminary.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Years refer to year of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere and include the harvest immediately following in the Southern Hemisphere. Averages are for years stated or for the nearest comparable period. Yields have been calculated on basis of unrounded estimates of acreages for countries of small production.

SOUTHERN RHODESIAN BLUE-CURED
PRICES 1954 CROP

Salisbury auctions for the 1954 crop of flue-cured tobacco opened on March 23. Sales during the first 6 weeks of the season amounted to 19.7 million pounds, for an average of 35.6 pence (41.5 U.S. cents) per pound, compared with 47.7 pence (55.6 U.S. cents) for the corresponding period of 1953. The drop in prices this season is attributed to the greater quantities of nondescript tobacco selling at prices markedly lower than last year. Better-quality leaf has sold a little lower than in 1953.

Exports of flue-cured tobacco from Southern Rhodesia during the marketing season, April 1953 - March 1954, totaled 84.5 million pounds, slightly lower than in 1952-1953. The United Kingdom took 52.9 million pounds during 1953-54. Australia took 8.5 million, the Netherlands 5.9 million, Denmark and Western Germany 3 million each, the Belgian Congo 2.2 million, and Sweden, Egypt and Belgium roughly 1.0 million pounds each.

CONSUMPTION OF VIRGINIA-TYPE
CIGARETTES DROPS IN ISRAEL

Israeli manufacturers report that consumption of Virginia-type cigarettes has declined from 60 percent of the total production in 1949 to 13 percent in 1953. This is reflected in United States flue-cured exports to Israel, which dropped from 800,000 pounds per year during 1947-51 to 240,000 pounds average during 1952-53. Although cigarette consumption has remained nearly constant during this period at 4.5 million pounds per year, price increases for all types of cigarettes during the last 4 years have encouraged smokers to return to the less expensive Oriental blends, thus reversing a trend that started during World War II.

Domestic production of flue-cured tobacco has not been too successful. Output has increased only moderately since the first commercial planting in 1951 when about 143,000 pounds were produced. In 1953 output totaled 220,500 pounds, but the quality was considered inferior to imported tobacco.

Reports indicate that equalization of taxes on Virginia and Oriental blends would result in increased consumption of the former and that overall tax and price reductions would in addition to increasing overall consumption allow the trend to Virginia-type cigarettes to continue. It is estimated that either of these moves would enlarge flue-cured imports to about 800,000 pounds per year.

U. K.'s FIRST QUARTER TOBACCO IMPORTS

The United Kingdom imported a total of 50.8 million pounds of unmanufactured tobacco during the first quarter (January-March) of 1954, compared with 32.6 million for January-March 1953. Flue-cured tobacco accounted for 42.0 million pounds of the 1954 figure, and 22.2 million pounds of this was from the United States. Last year, only 25.3 million pounds of flue-cured leaf were imported in the first quarter, of which the United States supplied 10.0 million. Larger takings of United States tobacco during the first quarter of 1954 reflect the increase in the allocation of dollars for tobacco purchases in the 1953-54 fiscal year.

INDONESIA PRODUCES MORE FLUE-CURED TOBACCO

An increasing percentage of the Virginia-type tobacco used in Indonesian American-style cigarettes is being produced domestically. Cigarette production within the country is increasing but import licenses for Virginia leaf in 1954 were reduced to 10 million pounds. This is a large cut from 1952 when the United States, alone, shipped 13.2 million pounds to Indonesia.

Domestic production in 1953 was about 10 million pounds from 23,400 acres. The Government plans a 30 percent increase in 1954 acreage and also plans to eventually produce enough flue-cured for all domestic requirements. Indonesian tobacco manufacturers believe that this will be very difficult. The quantity can be raised but Indonesia's soil and climate are not suitable for the production of the better grades of flue-cured leaf. For this reason they believe that imports cannot drop much without sacrificing the quality of (and possibly the market for) American-type blended cigarettes.

U.K. IMPORT REGULATIONS OF FROZEN EGGS AND OTHER EGG PRODUCTS

The Ministry of Food of the United Kingdom announced that, except for the balance of its existing contract with Denmark, it ceased to import frozen whole eggs from January 1, 1954, that purchases from the Ministry's stocks may continue to be made, and that imports of frozen hen eggs, whole, would be returned to private trade from July 1, 1954. The Board of Trade now announces the arrangements for the private import of frozen eggs and other egg products from July 1, 1954 and a change in the arrangements for the import of dried egg albumen.

As of the 1st of July 1954, the Open General License will be extended so as to permit, without separate license, the import of frozen eggs if originating in the British Commonwealth (except Canada), British Trust Territories, British Protectorates and Protected States, Burma, Irish Republic, Iraq, Iceland, Jordan and Libya.

Imports from a few countries outside the Scheduled Territories will be permitted under specific licenses which will be issued immediately but valid only for imports from July 1, 1954. However, imports will not be allowed from the following countries except when special permits for dollar exchange are granted: Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominica Republic, Honduras, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Philippines, Tangier, the United States, and Venezuela.

In 1953 United States exports to the United Kingdom of frozen eggs and other egg products amounted to less than \$3,000 and as indicated United States exports in 1954 will be dependent on the number of special permits, allowing dollar exchange, granted to United Kingdom private importers for United States frozen eggs and other egg products.

MALAYAN STATES PURCHASING POULTRY BREEDING STOCK

Interest in poultry raising and the demand for egg and poultry products in the Malayan States has risen steadily in recent years. Chicken numbers in the Malayan States are now roughly estimated at 10 million. As the Malayan poultry industry continues to develop, the demand for imported baby chicks and hatching eggs stand to increase because Malayan poultry raisers prefer a cross of Rhode Island Reds and their indigenous chicken. The latter is highly resistant to tropical pests and diseases.

Even though the United States thus far has not been a supplier of the breeding stock used in Malaya, it appears possible to be a new market for United States poultry breeding stock. However, at present dollars are not allocated for the purchase of poultry breeding stock. If by other means than dollar sales, United States stock is sold to the Malayan States, the stock in order to pass the Malayan States health and quarantine requirements needs only to be accompanied by N.P.I.P. certificates.

The Government of the Federation of Malaya through its Department of Veterinary Medicine has in recent years carried on a campaign to wipe out all poultry diseases. In 1947, a vaccination program against Newcastle disease was initiated. This disease had been responsible for the loss of tens of thousands of birds in Malaya every year and thus a constant deterrent to poultry growers. Progress in preventing Newcastle disease has probably been the largest single contributing factor in the expansion of the Malayan poultry industry. In 1953 the Government manufactured and distributed vaccine for the inoculation of over 7 million fowl.

Adequate domestic feed supplies constitute another major problem for the Malayan poultry producers. Local supplies of basic materials are insufficient to meet requirements. Consequently oilseed cake, bran and mixed feed pellets are imported. Recently dollar exchange was made available for the purchase of a mixed feed plant in the United States. The plant is to be located in Singapore and should be in operation by the end of 1954.

WORLD MEAT PRODUCTION 1953 1/

Production of meat during 1953 in the principal countries of the world, exclusive of the Far East, was around 4 percent greater than the record output of 1952, 20 percent above the 1946-50 average and 18 percent greater than prewar. Production in the 41 countries under review account for around 93 percent of the world output, exclusive of China, according to information collected and analyzed by the Foreign Agricultural Service.

Meat output in the 41 countries, for which detailed estimates were available, totaled 80 billion pounds (carcass weight basis) in 1953 compared with 77 billion a year earlier and 74 billion in 1951. Practically all of the increase from 1952 to 1953 was due to greater production of beef which rose to a new record high. Output of lamb, mutton and goat meat increased slightly. On the other hand, production of pork in 1953 was around a billion pounds less than in 1952 and was the smallest in 3 years.

A further moderate rise in world meat output is in prospect during 1954. Not much change is now foreseen in production of pork but output of beef is expected to rise further as increased slaughter of cattle is probable in several of the major producing countries. A continued high level of production of mutton and lamb is probable. Both cattle and sheep numbers in the world are now at record levels. At the first of 1954 hog numbers were slightly below a year earlier but were slightly above prewar.

Increased beef production during 1954 seems likely in a number of countries including Canada, New Zealand, France, the United Kingdom and Argentina. Production in the United States is expected to show little change from the record set in 1953.

Pork output in Western Europe during 1954 promises to be about the same as a year earlier. Greater production in Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom is expected to be about offset by decreases in other countries including Belgium, Western Germany and the Netherlands. Increased production of pigs during 1954 in the United States and Canada will show up largely in increased slaughter and pork production in the last half of 1954 and in 1955.

Total meat production during 1953 was above 1952 in all major areas of the world, except South America. Production in North America of 28 billion pounds was 6 percent greater than in 1952, due to a substantial increase in beef production in the United States and Canada which more than offset substantial decreases in the output of pork in the two countries.

1/ A more extensive statement will be published soon as a Foreign Agriculture Circular by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington 25, D. C.

MEAT 1/: Preliminary estimate of production of beef and veal, pork, mutton, lamb and goat meat, and total meat in specified countries in 1953, with comparison

532

Country	Beef and Veal				Pork (excluding lard)				Mutton, Lamb and Goat				Total 2/				1953 as Percentage of			
	Average :		Average :		Average :		Average :		Average :		Average :		Average :		Average :		1946-50 :		1952	
	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	1946-50 :	1952 :	Percent :	Percent :
	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent	Percent
NORTH AMERICA																				
Canada	1,043	825	975	1,182	956	1,182	915	26	27	2,053	2,033	1,917	2,033	1,917	2,033	1,917	2,033	94	94	
Mexico	723	820	763	265	262	265	265	71	68	1,095	1,156	1,096	1,156	1,096	1,156	1,096	1,156	95	95	
United States	10,980	10,840	14,003	11,547	10,541	11,547	10,063	648	729	22,264	23,035	24,795	23,035	24,795	23,035	24,795	23,035	108	108	
Cuba	375	370	370	38	37	38	38	2	2	414	410	410	410	410	410	410	410	99	100	
EUROPE																				
Austria	158	213	233	370	232	370	380	4	4	407	630	661	630	661	630	661	630	105	105	
Belgium	238	337	362	267	267	267	395	7	8	559	778	815	778	815	778	815	778	105	105	
Denmark	327	369	393	839	520	839	1,095	3	3	884	1,271	1,512	1,271	1,512	1,271	1,512	1,271	119	119	
Finland	91	104	115	120	109	120	134	11	17	220	248	278	248	278	248	278	248	112	112	
France	1,985	2,270	2,469	1,874	1,480	1,874	1,874	215	243	3,820	4,552	4,762	4,552	4,762	4,552	4,762	4,552	105	105	
Germany, Western	1,060	1,470	1,705	2,850	1,470	2,850	2,849	45	40	4,700	4,430	4,665	4,430	4,665	4,430	4,665	4,430	105	105	
Greece	29	33	34	44	34	44	44	98	112	161	180	190	180	190	180	190	180	106	106	
Ireland	158	200	202	145	129	145	202	40	50	327	390	454	390	454	390	454	390	116	116	
Italy	522	675	790	765	555	765	725	103	110	1,216	1,618	1,692	1,618	1,692	1,618	1,692	1,618	105	105	
Netherlands	227	393	386	566	294	566	627	13	17	555	994	1,052	994	1,052	994	1,052	994	106	106	
Norway	87	98	96	93	70	93	85	30	35	193	232	222	232	222	232	222	232	96	96	
Portugal	62	66	74	215	206	206	180	47	51	324	323	305	323	305	323	305	323	94	94	
Sweden	261	288	268	341	341	395	411	7	4	637	716	711	716	711	716	711	716	99	99	
Switzerland	173	205	213	148	148	204	219	4	5	336	424	446	424	446	424	446	424	105	105	
United Kingdom	1,220	1,359	1,398	1,148	490	1,148	1,219	305	386	2,025	2,878	3,003	2,878	3,003	2,878	3,003	2,878	104	104	
SOUTH AMERICA																				
Argentina	4,284	4,185	3,560	260	391	260	320	355	355	5,215	4,800	4,235	4,800	4,235	4,800	4,235	4,800	88	88	
Brazil	2,114	2,306	2,352	545	512	545	560	69	88	2,695	2,928	3,000	2,928	3,000	2,928	3,000	2,928	102	102	
Chile	280	254	249	57	52	57	63	94	110	426	417	422	417	422	417	422	417	101	101	
Paraguay	230	172	170	-	-	-	-	-	-	230	172	170	172	170	172	170	172	99	99	
Uruguay	543	666	654	41	36	41	40	138	122	743	845	816	845	816	845	816	845	97	97	
AFRICA																				
Union of South Africa	650	650	755	95	82	95	85	185	200	917	935	1,040	935	1,040	935	1,040	935	111	111	
OCEANIA																				
Australia	1,226	1,339	1,579	191	210	191	189	701	823	2,137	2,331	2,591	2,331	2,591	2,331	2,591	2,331	111	111	
New Zealand	409	430	408	89	84	89	92	708	741	1,201	1,292	1,241	1,292	1,241	1,292	1,241	1,292	96	96	

1/ Carcass meat basis - excludes offal and lard.

2/ Includes horsemeat in addition to types shown in other columns, if it is produced in quantity.

3/ Includes carcass weight equivalent of live animals exported.

4/ Averages for years 1948-50.

5/ Excludes farm production.

6/ Years ending September 30.

1/ Carcass meat basis - excludes offal and lard. 2/ Includes horsemeat in addition to types shown in other columns, if it is produced in quantity. 3/ Includes carcass weight equivalent of live animals exported. 4/ Averages for years 1948-50. 5/ Excludes farm production. 6/ Years ending September 30.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of the United States Foreign Service officers, and other information.

Output of all meats in North America during 1953 was 10 percent above the 1946-50 average and was 43 percent greater than prewar. North America produced 35 percent of the output in the countries under review. The United States is by far the world's largest individual producer. Production in the United States increased 8 percent from 1952 to 1953 and production in 1953 was the second largest of record.

Production of meat in Europe has been increasing steadily since World War II and the increases in pork production have been particularly large. Production in Europe, excluding the Soviet Union, during 1953 totaled 4 percent greater than a year earlier and was 38 percent greater than the 1946-50 average. Output of all meat during 1953 was the greatest since World War II and exceeded the prewar average for the first time since the war. Substantial gains have been registered for practically all countries and this increase continued during 1953 with few exceptions.

Since 1946-50 output of all meats has nearly doubled in the Netherlands. Increases of from 45 to 75 percent are recorded for Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Western Germany, and the United Kingdom. Increases of 25 to 40 percent were made in Finland, France, Ireland, Italy and Switzerland. Meat output in France and the United Kingdom have set new records. Production of meat in Europe, excluding the Soviet Union, in 1953 was estimated at around 28 billion pounds, about the same as the total for North America, and comprised around 35 percent of the total for all countries for which detailed estimates have been prepared.

Meat production established a new high record in Australia last year. Production in New Zealand was only 4 percent below the record set a year earlier. Production in the two countries of almost 4 billion pounds made up about 5 percent of the estimated total for the 41 countries.

Meat output declined moderately in South America during 1953. South America output of around 9.5 billion pounds was 11 percent of the estimated world total. In the important producing countries total production was estimated to be 5 percent below 1952 and 6 percent below the 1940-46 average. Production in Argentina declined in 1953 and was considerably below prewar. Output in Paraguay continued at a low level. Little change occurred in Chile and Uruguay. Output in Brazil was moderately greater than in 1952 and was substantially above the 1940-46 average.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

DANISH FIRM OPENS MILK FOOD PACKAGING PLANT IN INDIA

Dumex Limited, a subsidiary of the East Asiatic Company, Copenhagen, has added a powdered infant milk packaging plant to its pharmaceutical factory in Bombay, India. At present there is only one semi-automatic filling machine in operation, but plans are to add more machines should the demand for the product, which had never previously been marketed in India, justify it.

Previously, only Glaxo Laboratories Limited, and Indian Subsidiary of the British firm of the same name, had the only large scale packaging plant in India. Sales of infant milk food by Glaxo in India is estimated at \$1,650,000 annually. The Glaxo product is selling at about 80.1 cents per pound and Dumex intends to market its infant milk food at just under 75 cents a pound.

It is believed that the Dumex product will find a ready market in India and constitute another serious competitor for American infant foods which have not been able to develop a market in India. The only American brand infant food available on the Bombay market at the present time sells for \$1.23 per pound.

In 1953 United States exports of infant and dietetic milk foods totaled more than 11 million pounds and were valued at \$7.7 million; exports to India amounted to only 3,413 pounds.

WORLD RICE CROP SETS NEW RECORD

World ^{1/} rice production in 1953-54 (August-July) is estimated at 267 billion pounds of rough rice compared with the previous record of 254 billion pounds in the year before, according to the third estimate of the Foreign Agricultural Service. The harvesting of good crops in large areas raised the estimate of this season's world output.

New record crops have been, or are being, harvested on all the Continents, but the production of Europe and South America is only slightly larger than the previous record outturn of last season. The major gain in acreage and production is in Asia, which accounts for 89 percent of this year's world crop, excluding that of Communist China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union.

Weather in Asia has been unusually favorable for production. Through the rice season, growing conditions in India and Pakistan were the best in many years. These 2 countries, after China, are the world's largest producers of rice. Plentiful rains coming at a time advantageous for planting permitted large increases in acreage, and continued favorable weather resulted in the harvesting of above-average yields per acre.

^{1/} Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and the Soviet Union.

ASIA (Continued)														
Taiwan (Formosa).....	1,607:	1,638:	1,955:	1,931:	2,000:	2,393:	1,829:	2,270:	2,339:	2,388:	3,845.1:	2,996.7:	4,438.4:	4,517.5:
Thailand.....	7,088:	10,214:	14,174:	12,677:	14,300:	1,553:	1,173:	1,139:	1,118:	1,299:	9,588.5:	11,978.4:	16,169.6:	14,555.0:
Total 8/.....	152,241:	159,210:	169,958:	171,872:	178,936:	-	-	-	-	-	208,200.8:	199,686.1:	210,266.1:	238,182.5:
SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina.....	52:	102:	139:	151:	155:	2,692:	2,674:	2,758:	2,837:	2,774:	140.0:	272.7:	383.4:	428.4:
Brazil.....	2,323:	4,290:	4,628:	5,100:	5,600:	1,287:	1,423:	1,396:	1,216:	1,214:	2,989.1:	6,105.7:	6,461.9:	6,200.0:
British Guiana.....	70:	97:	114:	153:	140:	2,289:	2,343:	2,183:	1,856:	2,107:	160.2:	227.3:	248.9:	283.9:
Chile.....	13:	79:	62:	78:	72:	3,515:	2,578:	2,845:	2,618:	2,708:	45.7:	203.7:	176.4:	204.2:
Colombia.....	150:	300:	391:	410:	370:	943:	1,366:	1,795:	1,886:	1,824:	141.4:	469.8:	701.7:	773.3:
Ecuador.....	95:	203:	147:	200:	175:	1,716:	1,768:	1,739:	1,750:	1,714:	163.0:	359.0:	255.7:	350.0:
Paraguay.....	5:	14:	25:	25:	25:	1,760:	2,043:	1,852:	1,676:	1,412:	8.8:	28.6:	46.3:	35.3:
Peru.....	107:	120:	146:	149:	153:	1,950:	3,022:	3,640:	3,773:	3,268:	208.6:	362.6:	531.5:	662.2:
Surinam.....	37:	41:	47:	49:	60:	2,081:	2,490:	2,706:	2,435:	2,542:	77.0:	102.1:	127.2:	119.3:
Uruguay.....	13:	29:	32:	33:	41:	2,992:	2,855:	3,250:	3,500:	3,105:	38.9:	82.8:	104.0:	115.5:
Venezuela.....	12:	50:	83:	88:	88:	1,042:	1,100:	1,145:	1,136:	1,023:	12.5:	55.0:	95.0:	100.0:
Total.....	2,902:	5,372:	5,874:	6,491:	6,930:	-	-	-	-	-	4,011.2:	8,324.5:	9,205.7:	9,238.9:
AFRICA														
Belgian Congo.....	220:	342:	399:	405:	410:	1,023:	813:	937:	963:	962:	225.0:	278.0:	374.0:	390.2:
Egypt.....	463:	732:	507:	388:	498:	3,233:	3,347:	2,696:	2,937:	2,887:	1,496.8:	2,450.3:	1,366.7:	1,139.6:
French Morocco.....	-	1:	5:	10:	12:	-	700:	3,400:	3,150:	2,083:	-	0.7:	17.0:	31.5:
Madagascar.....	1,207:	1,431:	1,668:	1,725:	1,750:	1,157:	1,176:	1,350:	1,310:	1,429:	1,396.8:	1,682.5:	2,252.2:	2,260.0:
Sierra Leone.....	346:	-	-	-	-	1,192:	-	-	-	-	412.3:	-	-	-
Total.....	4,396:	7,111:	7,535:	7,532:	7,761:	-	-	-	-	-	5,036.6:	7,880.1:	7,874.1:	7,711.6:
OCEANIA														
Australia.....	23:	31:	36:	35:	38:	4,143:	4,042:	3,556:	4,757:	4,718:	95.3:	125.3:	128.0:	166.5:
Fiji.....	10:	29:	-	-	-	1,940:	1,938:	-	-	-	19.4:	56.2:	-	-
Total.....	40:	95:	107:	108:	116:	-	-	-	-	-	121.7:	217.2:	222.0:	276.5:
World total 8/.....	161,588:	174,825:	187,222:	189,853:	197,876:	-	-	-	-	-	222,564.3:	222,881.1:	236,711.9:	253,811.5:

1/ Crops harvested in Northern Hemisphere countries during the latter part of the year, together with those harvested in Asia principally from November to May, are combined with crops harvested in Southern Hemisphere countries during the first part of the following year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Statistics of Burma and India in the prewar period are not comparable with those of postwar years. 4/ The area formerly known as French Indochina is now comprised of the Kingdom of Laos, the Kingdom of Cambodia, and the State of Vietnam. 5/ Planted acreage. 6/ North and South Korea. In the 1935-39 period, production in South Korea averaged about 6,750 million pounds annually. 7/ Average 1936-37 to 1939-40. 8/ Excluding Communist China, North Korea, and U.S.S.R. Postwar totals are not strictly comparable with those of prewar years.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

New record crops are recorded also in Thailand, the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan (Formosa), and Ceylon. The heaviest losses from adverse weather occurred in Japan and Malaya, while in Burma and Indochina unfavorable weather caused setbacks in important areas.

The present estimate of production in the surplus rice area - Thailand, Burma, and Indochina - is only moderately above that of a year earlier. Thailand's crop was better than expected at the beginning of the season. Unofficial reports have pointed to a harvest nearly 25 percent larger than the poor crop of the preceding year. Though the acreage in Burma did not reach the planned goal, it was maintained at about the previous year's level; the yields per acre and crop harvested, however, showed only a moderate decrease as compared with the year before. Although the acreage of Indochina increased substantially, lack of rainfall in Cambodia and South Vietnam prevented a corresponding increase in the harvest.

Total production in the Near East increased approximately 13 percent as compared with the year before. The acreage of Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Syria increased only moderately, but plentiful water for irrigation resulted in the production of very good crops.

The Western Hemisphere for the third consecutive year is harvesting a record rice crop. This results in 28 percent more rice being produced than in the immediate postwar period. The combined acreage of South America and North America represents approximately 5 percent of the world acreage in rice. A sharp increase is noted in this Hemisphere in that the more than 10 million acres in rice this year represent an increase of as much as 2 million acres over the already expanded acreage of the earlier postwar years, and are more than double the acreage in rice prior to World War II.

Increases in rice acreage are shared in South America and North America in nearly all countries where rice is grown. The largest continental area where weather was detrimental to rice production was in South America. The harvest of Brazil, the largest producer in the Western Hemisphere, is being reduced by drought in the second successive year. Acreage increased sharply because of the shortage and high prices of Brazilian rice resulting from last season's small crop, and until May, prospects appeared good for an excellent harvest. Drought in the upland rice States of Sao Paulo, Parana, and Goias, however, has reduced substantially the yields per acre. Nevertheless, because of the large increase in acreage, production is expected to exceed the poor crop of last year.

Other countries of South America where unfavorable weather has restricted the output are Colombia, Venezuela, and Chile, and to a lesser extent Argentina, Uruguay, British Guiana, and Paraguay. Declining price levels on the world market are held responsible for decreases in the rice acreage of Ecuador. Surinam maintained acreage at a high level and a large crop was harvested.

Rice acreage increased throughout the rice areas of North America. The record acreage in the United States was approximately 25 percent larger than the high level of the 1945-49 postwar period. On this area, the harvest of the highest average yield per acre of rough rice ever produced resulted in a 1953 crop substantially above the previous year's record.

Percentagewise, the greatest gain occurred in the rice production of Cuba, where acreage was 34 percent larger than in 1952, and good yields per acre were attained. The weather in the Central American and Caribbean areas generally was favorable, resulting in high yields per acre. An exception was in Costa Rica, where lack of rain cut the harvest substantially below expected yields.

The estimated rice acreage of Europe is smaller than in the year before. Only in Italy was the acreage slightly larger, and, according to official statistics, the per-acre yields were not up to the previous year's level. This resulted in a slight decline in production.

Adverse weather in the other European countries at the time of planting prevented all the intended acreage from being put into rice. In Spain and Greece the weather turned favorable for rice production, and Spain harvested a larger crop than in the preceding year. In Portugal and France, however, the yields per acre harvested were not so large as in the preceding year.

The estimate of Africa's rice production is somewhat higher than earlier estimates because of the promising outlook for the crop in Madagascar. If the prospective crop is harvested, Africa's record production this year will show an increase of 7 percent over the immediate postwar average period.

Madagascar in the last 3 years has assumed a position as Africa's largest producer of rice. Prospects are for an excellent harvest this season - as high as 11 percent over the increased production of the 2 previous years.

Although increased water supplies permitted more of Egypt's area to be planted to crops this year, water available for rice was limited and acreage was held to around 500,000 acres as compared with 730,000 acres in 1950, the last year before the rice area declined. As in previous years when water was low, the yield per acre was less than average. Rice production, however, increased 26 percent over that of the preceding season and was the largest since 1950.

In the Belgian Congo, rice production reportedly has been on the increase, the output in the 2 most recent seasons being estimated at approximately 40 percent more than in the immediate postwar period.

The largest increase in Australia's record crop now being harvested is in the Warkool-Tullakool district, where summer weather was nearly ideal for rapid growth of the crop. Experiments in rice growing are being carried on in the second year in the Northern Territory and in Western Australia. Production there now is limited to the provision of seed for future plantings.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service Reports.

COTTON CONSUMPTION IN INDIA CONTINUED AT RECORD LEVEL

Consumption of cotton by mills in India reached a record total of 330,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) in January 1954, the latest month for which consumption data are available, according to E. B. Shearer, American Vice Consul, American Embassy, Bombay.

Average monthly consumption of cotton from August 1953 through January 1954 was 314,000 bales, compared with the monthly average of 304,000 bales during the 1952-53 season. The rate of consumption of indigenous domestic cotton (averaging 268,000 bales per month) was 9 percent above last season, while consumption of foreign cotton (46,000 per month) is lagging 19 percent behind last year's.

Stocks and consumption of Bengal deshi through the end of January were at about the same level as last season. Since Bengals was the only variety of which India produced less this year than last, no possibilities are seen for an increase in the export quota of 75,000 bales (Indian bales of 392 pounds net). Stocks of Punjab and other indigenous Americans are reported to be adequate for about 5 months' mill consumption, although average monthly consumption of these types is running about 30 percent above last season. Stocks of United States cotton at mills on January 31 were only about 18 percent of supplies held on the same date last year.

Some increase in imports from the United States may follow the Government action to permit traders to import cotton on their own accounts. Previously, licenses for dollar cotton had been limited to mills or to importers with firm mill purchase contracts. Importers must notify the Textile Commissioner of all arrivals, relative prices, and resales, however, and must obtain his prior approval for sales to nonmill purchasers.

Imports of 265,000 bales of cotton from August 1953 through March 1954 were 10 percent below imports for the same period in 1952-53. Exports of cotton during the same period of 1953-54 were 78,000 bales, well below the 210,000 bales exported in August-March of the previous season.

Prices of cotton on the Bombay spot market have dropped from 809 rupees per candy (21.71 cents a pound) for Jarila, Fine, on January 28, 1954, to 751 rupees (20.20 cents) on April 29, 1954, to 725 rupees (19.50 cents) on May 27, 1954. An export tax equivalent to about 10.76 cents a pound (not included above) is currently in effect.

SPANISH GOVERNMENT AMENDS EXPORT REGULATIONS FOR COTTON FABRICS

On May 8, 1954, the Spanish Government issued a supplementary order to the National Cotton Center of Barcelona, changing the regulations on the export of cotton piece goods. The previous system, prescribed by the order of January 9, 1954, issued in Barcelona on January 16, 1954, was continued with reservations.

The principal change in the new regulations is the increase in the amount of indirect subsidy afforded exporters by the allocation to them of specified amounts of raw cotton at the same low prices as charged the Spanish Army (about 38.5 pesetas per kilo or 45 U.S. cents per pound). The saving amounts to 15.5 pesetas per kilo or 18 U.S. cents a pound, and is a significant encouragement to the exportation of Spanish textiles. The new order increases the allowance of the low-priced cotton from 1.50 to 1.75 kilos of cotton per dollar value of the exported piece goods. For sterling areas the increase is from 4 to 4.7 kilos of cotton per pound-sterling value of goods exported to sterling areas.

Other provisions of the order provide for payment of the subsidy in cash pesetas instead of in cotton, and for the authorization for 30-day credits to purchasers of cotton from the National Cotton Center in lieu of the former requirement for cash payment.

COLOMBIA RELAXES RESTRICTIONS ON HOG LARD IMPORTS

The Government of Colombia's decree No. 1528 of May 12, 1954, lowers the duties on and permits the importation of hog lard, in addition to other basic foodstuffs, reports F. M. Dickman, Vice Consul, American Embassy, Bogota. The local fats and oils industry takes a pessimistic view of the new decree as it is probable that imported hog lard henceforth will be cheaper than domestic vegetable lard. Also, since hog lard is greatly preferred to vegetable lard it will be doubly attractive to consumers. To prevent the domestic vegetable lard industry from closing its doors, it is expected that certain changes will be made or that the issuance of import licenses will be severely curtailed.

The new decree relaxes the restrictions placed on hog lard imports by Resolution No. 429 of September 24, 1953 (see Foreign Crops and Markets of October 19, 1953, page 292). At that time, stocks of domestic fats and oils were relatively large and had been moving slowly for some time. In 1953 Colombia imported about 2,200 tons of hog lard as compared with 4,400 tons in 1952.

INDIA'S FATS AND OILS SITUATION

No significant decline from the current level of edible oil prices in India is anticipated by the Bombay trade, reports D. R. Gulati, American Embassy, New Delhi. On the other hand, any steep rise such as occurred last year is unlikely. Despite increased production, the movement of peanuts into the terminal markets is said to be rather slow as farmers reportedly are holding out for better prices. Other contributing factors are the high level of offtake by the vanaspati (hydrogenated vegetable oil) industry and the hope that the Government still may permit some export of peanut oil.

The abolition of export duties on a number of oils (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 24, 1954) was aimed at stimulating exports which had fallen to low levels in recent months. Removal of duty on mustard oil is expected to enable India to find alternative markets to compensate for the substantial loss of exports to Pakistan. Price differences in foreign markets between Indian linseed and castor oils and Argentine and Brazilian oils, has proved a serious impediment to Indian exports of these oils. The removal of export duty on linseed oil and a 33 percent decrease in the export duty on castor oil is expected to prove at least a partial relief. Trade circles, while welcoming the reduction in duty on castor oil, are not completely satisfied and are hopeful of a further reduction.

The removal of export duty on kardiseed, nigerseed and cottonseed oils and the reimposition of duty on kardiseed and nigerseed are intended to encourage exports of oils instead of seeds and thereby assist in the utilization of idle capacity in the local crushing industry. The United States, an important buyer of castor oil in the past, has been practically out of the Indian market in recent months. Castor oil exports from Bombay during the first 3 months of 1954 were estimated at 560 tons against over 4,480 tons during the corresponding period of last year.

Production of cottonseed oil has received a setback due largely to the rise in the price of seed. The improved supply situation of peanut oil also has restricted domestic demand for cottonseed oil.

India's production of oilseeds, edible and inedible, during 1953-54 totaled 7.8 million short tons or an increase of 1.4 million tons from the previous season. As shown in the following Table, production of all oilseeds was up.

Table 1 - INDIA: Estimated acreage and production of oilseeds and oils, 1952-53 and 1953-54

Year	Peanuts 1/	Sesame	Castor beans	Rape and mustard 2/	Flaxseed	Cotton- seed	Total
Area (1,000 acres)							
1952-53.....	3/ 11,850:4/	5,751:3/	1,357:5/	5,155:5/	3,394:		:27,507
1953-54.....	5/ 11,356:6/	6,135:5/	1,368:6/	5,350:6/	3,273:		:27,482
Production (1,000 short tons)							
1952-53.....	3/ 3,230:4/	505:3/	119:5/	927:5/	398:6/	1,198:	6,377
1953-54.....	5/ 4,225:6/	608:5/	120:7/	935:7/	403:6/	1,509:	7,800
Oil production (1,000 short tons) 8/							
1952-53.....	690:	168:	90:	168:	120:	4:	1,240
1953-54.....	895:	207:	90:	168:	120:	10:	1,490

1/ Unshelled nuts. 2/ Acreage and production figures are for pure crop only which taken together with interplanted crop total about double these figures. Figures for oil production relate to the entire crop. 3/ Revised final estimate. 4/ Unrevised supplementary estimate. 5/ Unrevised final estimate. 6/ Based on preliminary incomplete official estimate. 7/ Embassy estimate. 8/ Embassy estimates. Must be considered rough approximations only as there are no official or unofficial estimates compiled on vegetable oil production.

Source: American Embassy, New Delhi.

The official estimate of peanut production is 4,224,640 short tons of unshelled nuts, an increase of 31 percent from the previous crop. This estimate is equivalent to 2,956,800 tons of shelled peanuts. However, trade estimates vary between 2.5 and 2.6 million tons of peanut kernels. Sesame production during 1953-54, based on preliminary and incomplete official estimates, is expected to be around 600,000 tons. Trade sources, however, believe the crop will not exceed the previous year's output of 500,000 tons.

The final official estimate places the castor crop at 120,000 tons. This pertains to the pure crop only and does not take into account the portion of the crop interplanted with other crops, such as peanuts and Italian millets. Roughly estimated, the pure and mixed crops together amounted to 240,000 tons. Unofficially, the rape and mustard crop is estimated at 935,000 tons. The flaxseed crop is expected to be slightly better than last season and is placed unofficially at around 400,000 tons (14 million bushels). And cottonseed is estimated, also unofficially, at 1,510,000 tons.

Because of the short 1952-53 peanut crop, an acute scarcity of peanut oil developed during the summer months of 1953, necessitating production cutbacks by the vanaspati industry. With the movement of the new crop into the market, however, vanaspati production was stepped up and output for the year amounted to 213,500 tons or nearly 450 tons more than in 1952. Peanut oil is the principal constituent of vanaspati and in normal times accounts for as much as 95 percent of the oils used in this product. The remaining 5 percent, according to Government regulations, should be sesame oil. However, due to the prevailing high prices of peanut oil during 1953, a number of manufacturers mixed linseed, mustard and cottonseed oils with peanut oil.

Exports of oilseeds and vegetable oils during 1953 with comparisons for earlier years are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. - INDIA: Exports of oilseeds and vegetable oils,
average 1935-39, annual 1951-53

(Short tons)

	1935-39	1951	1952	1953 ^{1/}
Oilseed:				
Flaxseed ^{2/}	272,608	21,082	3,084	-
Peanuts ^{3/}	1,044,778	64,418	29,382	17,067
Castor beans	40,325	12,171	4,948	-
Sesame	7,998	2,633	3,531	12
Rape and mustard	28,131	592	24	169
Other ^{4/}	5/ 3,439	3,022	13,363	12,996
Total	1,397,279	103,918	54,332	30,244
Oil:				
Linseed	1,165	20,700 ^{6/}	36,560 ^{7/}	7,858
Peanut	8,591	79,165	65,951	17,146
Castor	6,566	29,847 ^{6/}	36,841 ^{7/}	29,438
Rape and mustard	2,800	137 ^{6/}	9,330 ^{7/}	172
Other ^{4/}	8/ 998	21,986 ^{6/}	10,720 ^{7/}	8,289
Total	20,120	151,835	159,402	62,903

^{1/} Preliminary. ^{2/} Equivalent in 1,000 bushels: 1935-39--9,736; 1951--753; 1952--110. ^{3/} In the shell. ^{4/} May not be complete. ^{5/} Cottonseed only. ^{6/} Includes shipments by land. ^{7/} Excluding shipments by land. Statistics showing small quantity shipped by land not yet available. ^{8/} Sesame seed only.

Compiled from official sources.

As of early May, the Government of India had not established any export quota on peanut oil for 1954. In February 1954, the Minister of Commerce and Industry told the South Indian oil trade that no export of peanut oil would be allowed this year unless domestic prices declined to below 1,000 rupees per long ton (9.4 cents per pound). However, on March 4 the Government announced that a small quantity of handpicked peanut kernels would be permitted for shipment to dollar areas by established shippers. The shippers, according to the announcements, would be given export allocations equal to one-half the total shipments of handpicked peanuts made by them during any one of the calendar years 1951, 1952, or 1953, to all permissible destinations. Toward the end of March, the basis of export allocations was altered to shipments to hard currency areas only. As a result, the Bombay trade estimates that the total export quota will be reduced from 8,000 to 6,000 long tons (8,960 to 6,720 short tons).

On March 1, the Government authorized for the first time in 1954 an export quota of 6,000 long tons of castor oil for the 4-month period ending April 30. On May 14, the Government announced that castor oil export allotments for the period ending July 31, 1954, would be authorized to established shippers on the basis of one-fourth of the shipments during the calendar year 1953. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, May 24, 1954.)

Free licensing of exports of linseed oil and rape and mustard seed oils will be permitted through June 30, 1954. For the six months ending June 30, an export quota of 1,500 long tons of vanaspati has been established.

In an effort to relieve the shortage of edible oils, the Government announced early in August 1953 that imports of cottonseed oil would be permitted freely. Moreover, the import duty was reduced but imports of cottonseed oil were small because the price was too high for the vanaspati industry. The import duty on palm oil also was cut with a view to increasing the consumption of imported palm oil by industrial consumers, notably soap manufacturers. Imports into Bombay totaled 14,560 short tons in 1953.

ANGOLA'S EXPORT SURTAXES ON VEGETABLE OILS SUSPENDED

A ministerial order of May 7, 1954, suspends the surtaxes on exports from Angola of oils from cottonseed, peanuts, copra, sesame seed, castor beans and unspecified oilseeds, reports J. B. Richards, First Secretary, American Embassy, Lisbon. The surtax on palm oil below 10 degrees acidity is suspended; on other palm oil it is reduced by two-thirds (to 3 percent if shipped to Portuguese territories and 5 percent if to foreign countries). At the same time the export surtax on castor beans is increased from the existing 3 percent (to Portuguese territories) and 6 percent (to foreign countries) to 33 and 36 percent, respectively.

The order is intended to improve the situation of the newly developing vegetable oil industry in Angola. The increase in the export surtax on castor beans will similarly assist a castor-oil mill which started operations in Angola about 2 years ago.

Exports of major vegetable oils from Angola in 1953 totaled 42,398 short tons. Palm kernel oil - 12,819 tons, and cottonseed oil - 11,798 tons, were the largest exports followed by palm oil - 7,367, peanut oil - 5,224, castor oil - 4,482, and sesame oil - 709 tons.

Most of the peanut oil was destined to Germany, Portugal and the Netherlands; palm kernel oil to Germany, Portugal, the Netherlands and Denmark; castor oil to France and Portugal; palm oil to Portugal and Germany. The only export to the United States was 130 tons of castor oil.